

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Original) A method for embossing a sheet of material comprising, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a first embossing roller by forming on the outer surface of a generally cylindrical roller a series of protrusions, and forming on the roller a pattern or design by at least partially removing a certain number of said protrusions so that the remaining protrusions surround the pattern or design;

(b) providing a second roller; and

(c) compressing the sheet of material between the first and second rollers.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the sheet of material is a web of diaper backsheet material.

29. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein step (c) improves the aesthetics of the material.

30. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein step (c) includes making the sheet of material more cloth-like.

31. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the sheet of material includes relatively low-caliber raw materials having relatively low quality and low cost.

32. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein step (c) includes embossing one of a brand name and graphics on the material.

33. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein step (c) includes improving the hand feel of the material by making the material softer.

34. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the first roller is made of steel and the second roller is resilient.

35. (Original) The method of claim 34, further comprising the step of forming a recess in the resilient second roller prior to step (c).

36. (Original) The method of claim 34, further comprising the steps of (d) providing a third roller that is made of steel, and (e) providing a second sheet of material, and wherein step (c) includes compressing the second sheet of material between the resilient second roller and the steel third roller.

37. (Original) A method for embossing a sheet of material comprising, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a first embossing roller having a width in the cross machine direction and having a circumference, by forming on the outer surface of a generally cylindrical roller a series of protrusions, each of said protrusions having a protrusion width in the cross machine direction, the protrusion width being substantially less than the width of the roller, and each of said protrusions having a protrusion dimension in the direction of the circumference of the roller, the protrusion dimension being substantially less than the circumference of the roller, and by forming on the roller a pattern or design by at least partially removing a certain number of said protrusions;

(b) providing a second roller; and

(c) compressing the sheet of material between the first and second rollers.

38. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the sheet of material is a web of diaper backsheet material.

39. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein step (c) improves the aesthetics of the material.

40. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein step (c) includes making the sheet of material more cloth-like.

41. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the sheet of material includes relatively low-caliber raw materials having relatively low quality and low cost.

42. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein step (c) includes embossing one of a brand name and graphics on the material.

43. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein step (c) includes improving the hand feel of the material by making the material softer.

44. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the first roller is made of steel and the second roller is resilient.

45. (Original) The method of claim 44, further comprising the step of forming a recess in the resilient second roller prior to step (c).

46. (Original) The method of claim 44, further comprising the steps of (d) providing a third roller that is made of steel, and (e) providing a second sheet of material, and wherein step (c) includes compressing the second sheet of material between the resilient second roller and the steel third roller.